

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A system for conducting a communication comprising:
2 at least one device for realizing a plurality of events
3 in the communication, the at least one device generating a
4 plurality of records concerning the events, respectively,
5 the records including data descriptive of the respective
6 events, each record including an identifier identifying the
7 communication; and
8 a server for processing the records before transmission
9 thereof.
- 1 2. The system of claim 1 wherein the communication
2 includes an information assistance call.
- 1 3. The system of claim 1 wherein the at least one
2 device includes a switch subsystem for receiving the
3 communication.
- 1 4. The system of claim 1 wherein the at least one
2 device includes a voice response unit.
- 1 5. The system of claim 1 wherein at least one device
2 includes a database subsystem for providing information
3 assistance in the communication.
- 1 6. The system of claim 1 wherein at least one of the
2 events includes a search for a telephone number.
- 1 7. The system of claim 1 wherein the at least one of
2 the events includes a StarBack event.

1 8. The system of claim 1 wherein the data includes
2 information identifying classes to which the respective
3 events belong.

1 9. The system of claim 1 wherein the server compresses
2 the data in the records before transmission thereof.

1 10. The system of claim 1 wherein the server controls
2 a rate at which the records are transmitted.

1 11. The system of claim 1 wherein the server
2 identifies selected records which are not to be transmitted.

1 12. The system of claim 1 wherein the server
2 identifies priority statuses of the records and causes the
3 records to be transmitted in an order pursuant to the
4 priority statuses thereof.

1 13. The system of claim 12 wherein each of the
2 priority statuses is indicated by a weight value relative to
3 a predetermined weight value.

1 14. Apparatus for conducting a communication, the
2 apparatus comprising:

3 an interface for receiving a plurality of records, each
4 record being associated with a respective one of a plurality
5 of events occurring during the communication, each record
6 including at least an identifier identifying the
7 communication;

8 a memory for storing a configuration file; and
9 a processor for processing the records based on a
10 specification in the configuration file.

11 15. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the records are
12 transmissible, and the processor compresses data in the
13 records before transmission thereof.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the
2 specification includes a translation table, and the data is
3 compressed by translating selected terms in the records to
4 representations thereof in accordance with the translation
5 table.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the records are
2 transmissible, and the processor controls a rate at which
3 the records are transmitted.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the
2 specification includes a selected length of a time window,
3 and the processor controls the rate based on a latency
4 measure within the time window.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein each record
2 includes a plurality of fields, and the processor identifies
3 selected records which are transmissible based on one or
4 more values in a selected field of the selected records, the
5 specification including the identity of the selected field
6 and the one or more values.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the records are
2 transmissible, and the processor identifies priority
3 statuses of the records based on the specification, the
4 processor causing the records to be transmitted in an order
5 pursuant to the priority statuses thereof.

6 21. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein each record has
7 a plurality of fields, the specification including an
8 association of a priority value with at least one of the
9 fields which has a selected value.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the priority
2 value includes a weight value relative to a predetermined
3 weight value.

1 23. A communications system for processing a call
2 received in a call center where an operator provides
3 services in the call, the communications system comprising:
4 at least one device for helping the operator to provide
5 the services in the call, the at least one device generating
6 a plurality of event records concerning the services, each
7 event record including an identifier identifying the call;
8 a memory for storing a configuration file;
9 a first server for processing the event records in
10 accordance with a specification in the configuration file;
11 and
12 a second server for receiving the processed event
13 records from the first server through a communications
14 network, the second server generating a database including
15 selected data from the received event records.

1 24. The system of claim 23 wherein the at least one
2 device includes a switch subsystem for receiving the call.

1 25. The system of claim 23 wherein the at least one
2 device includes a voice response unit.

1 26. The system of claim 23 wherein the at least one
2 device includes a database subsystem for providing
3 information assistance in the call.

1 27. The system of claim 23 wherein at least one of the
2 services includes a search for a telephone number.

1 28. The system of claim 23 wherein the at least one of
2 the services includes a StarBack service.

1 29. The system of claim 23 wherein the specification
2 includes a translation table, and the first server
3 translates selected terms in the event records to
4 representations thereof in accordance with the translation
5 table.

1 30. The system of claim 23 wherein the specification
2 includes a selected length of a time window, and the first
3 server controls a rate at which the event records are sent
4 to the second server based on a latency measure within the
5 time window.

1 31. The system of claim 23 wherein each event record
2 includes a plurality of fields, selected event records being
3 sent by the first server to the second server, the first
4 server identifying the selected event records based on one
5 or more values of a selected field in the selected event
6 records, the specification including the identity of the
7 selected field and the one or more values.

1 32. The system of claim 23 wherein the first server
2 identifies priority statuses of the event records based on

3 the specification, the first server causing the event
4 records to be transmitted to the second server in an order
5 pursuant to the priority statuses thereof.

1 33. The system of claim 32 wherein each event record
2 has a plurality of fields, the specification including an
3 association of a priority value with at least one of the
4 fields which has a selected value.

1 34. The system of claim 23 wherein the first server
2 causes the event records to be stored when a loss of a
3 connection through the communications network is determined.

1 35. The system of claim 23 wherein the communications
2 network includes a wide area network (WAN).

1 36. Apparatus for capturing events comprising:
2 an interface for receiving data concerning first
3 events;
4 a processor for inserting the data into a database, and
5 identifying second events based on selected data being
6 inserted into the database; and
7 an output for generating records representing the
8 second events.

1 37. The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the data
2 includes identifiers identifying at least one class to which
3 the first events belong.

1 38. The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the records
2 include identifiers identifying at least one class to which
3 the second events belong.

4 39. The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the first events
5 concern outbound calls made from a call center, and the
6 second events concern long distance connections made in the
7 outbound calls.

1 40. The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the first events
2 concern conference calls made through a call center, and the
3 second events concern long distance connections made in the
4 conference calls.

1 41. The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the first events
2 concern outbound calls made from a call center, and the
3 second events concern a selected service to which the
4 outbound calls are connected.

1 42. The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the first events
2 concern conference calls made through a call center, and the
3 second events concern a selected service to which the
4 conference calls are connected.

1 43. Apparatus for compiling statistics concerning at
2 least one communication, the communication including a
3 plurality of events occurring during the communication, the
4 apparatus comprising:

5 an interface for receiving records representing the
6 events, each record including an identifier;

7 a processor for associating selected records with the
8 communication based on the identifiers in the selected
9 records; and

10 an output for generating the statistics concerning the
11 communication based on data in the selected records.

1 44. The apparatus of claim 43 wherein the
2 communication includes an information assistance call.

1 45. The apparatus of claim 43 wherein the identifiers
2 each identify the communication.

1 46. The apparatus of claim 43 wherein the statistics
2 is a function of time when the communication takes place.

1 47. The apparatus of claim 43 wherein the statistics
2 is a function of an interval during which the communication
3 takes place.

1 48. The apparatus of claim 43 wherein the
2 communication is conducted through a call center, and the
3 statistics is a function of a location of the call center.

1 49. The apparatus of claim 43 wherein the
2 communication is transported through a carrier, and the
3 statistics is a function of the carrier.

1 50. The apparatus of claim 43 wherein the
2 communication originates from a market, and the statistics
3 is a function of the market.

1 51. The apparatus of claim 43 wherein the selected
2 records are selected based on a type of event represented
3 thereby.

1 52. The apparatus of claim 43 wherein the data
2 includes indications of selected events represented by the
3 selected records.

4 53. A method for use in a system for conducting a
5 communication, the system including at least one device, the
6 method comprising:

7 realizing by the at least one device a plurality of
8 events in the communication;

9 generating by the at least one device a plurality of
10 records concerning the events, respectively, the records
11 including data descriptive of the respective events, each
12 record including an identifier identifying the
13 communication; and

14 processing the records before transmission thereof.

1 54. The method of claim 53 wherein the communication
2 includes an information assistance call.

1 55. The method of claim 53 wherein at least one of the
2 events includes a search for a telephone number.

1 56. The method of claim 53 wherein the at least one of
2 the events includes a StarBack event.

1 57. The method of claim 53 wherein the data includes
2 information identifying classes to which the respective
3 events belong.

1 58. The method of claim 53 wherein the processing
2 includes compressing the data in the records before
3 transmission thereof.

1 59. The method of claim 53 wherein the processing
2 includes controlling a rate at which the records are
3 transmitted.

4 60. The method of claim 53 wherein the processing
5 includes identifying selected records which are not to be
6 transmitted.

1 61. The method of claim 53 wherein the processing
2 includes identifying priority statuses of the records and
3 causing the records to be transmitted in an order pursuant
4 to the priority statuses thereof.

1 62. The method of claim 61 wherein each of the
2 priority statuses is indicated by a weight value relative to
3 a predetermined weight value.

1 63. A method for collecting information concerning a
2 communication, the method comprising:
3 receiving a plurality of records, each record being
4 associated with a respective one of a plurality of events
5 occurring during the communication, each record including at
6 least an identifier identifying the communication;
7 storing a configuration file; and
8 processing the records based on a specification in the
9 configuration file.

1 64. The method of claim 63 wherein the records are
2 transmissible, and the processing includes compressing data
3 in the records before transmission thereof.

1 65. The method of claim 63 wherein the specification
2 includes a translation table, and the data is compressed by
3 translating selected terms in the records to
4 representations thereof in accordance with the translation
5 table.

6 66. The method of claim 63 wherein the records are
7 transmissible, and the processing includes controlling a
8 rate at which the records are transmitted.

1 67. The method of claim 66 wherein the specification
2 includes a selected length of a time window, and the rate is
3 controlled based on a latency measure within the time
4 window.

1 68. The method of claim 63 wherein each record
2 includes a plurality of fields, and the processing includes
3 identifying selected records which are transmissible based
4 on one or more values in a selected field of the selected
5 records, the specification including the identity of the
6 selected field and the one or more values.

1 69. The method of claim 63 wherein the records are
2 transmissible, and the processing includes identifying
3 priority statuses of the records based on the specification,
4 and causing the records to be transmitted in an order
5 pursuant to the priority statuses thereof.

1 70. The method of claim 69 wherein each record has a
2 plurality of fields, the specification including an
3 association of a priority value with at least one of the
4 fields which has a selected value.

1 71. The method of claim 70 wherein the priority value
2 includes a weight value relative to a predetermined weight
3 value.

1 72. A method for use in a communications system for
2 processing a call received in a call center where an
3 operator provides services in the call, the communications
4 system including at least one device, the method comprising:

5 using the at least one device to help provide the
6 services in the call;

7 generating by the at least one device a plurality of
8 event records concerning the services, each event record
9 including an identifier identifying the call;

10 storing a configuration file;

11 processing the event records in accordance with a
12 specification in the configuration file;

13 receiving the processed event records through a
14 communications network; and

15 generating a database which includes selected data from
16 the received event records.

1 73. The method of claim 72 wherein at least one of the
2 services includes a search for a telephone number.

1 74. The method of claim 72 wherein the at least one of
2 the services includes a StarBack service.

1 75. The method of claim 72 wherein the specification
2 includes a translation table, and the processing includes
3 translating selected terms in the event records to
4 representations thereof in accordance with the translation
5 table.

1 76. The method of claim 72 wherein the specification
2 includes a selected length of a time window, and the
3 processing includes controlling a rate at which the event

4 records are transmitted through the communications network
5 based on a latency measure within the time window.

1 77. The method of claim 72 wherein each event record
2 includes a plurality of fields, selected event records being
3 transmitted through the communications network, the
4 processing including identifying the selected event records
5 based on one or more values of a selected field in the
6 selected event records, the specification including the
7 identity of the selected field and the one or more values.

1 78. The method of claim 72 wherein the processing
2 includes identifying priority statuses of the event records
3 based on the specification, and causing the event records to
4 be transmitted through the communications network in an
5 order pursuant to the priority statuses thereof.

1 79. The method of claim 78 wherein each event record
2 has a plurality of fields, the specification including an
3 association of a priority value with at least one of the
4 fields which has a selected value.

1 80. The method of claim 72 wherein the processing
2 includes storing the event records when a loss of a
3 connection through the communications network is determined.

1 81. A method for capturing events comprising:
2 receiving data concerning first events;
3 inserting the data into a database;
4 identifying second events based on selected data being
5 inserted into the database; and
6 generating records representing the second events.

7 82. The method of claim 81 wherein the data includes
8 identifiers identifying at least one class to which the
9 first events belong.

1 83. The method of claim 81 wherein the records include
2 identifiers identifying at least one class to which the
3 second events belong.

1 84. The method of claim 81 wherein the first events
2 concern outbound calls made from a call center, and the
3 second events concern long distance connections made in the
4 outbound calls.

1 85. The method of claim 81 wherein the first events
2 concern conference calls made through a call center, and the
3 second events concern long distance connections made in the
4 conference calls.

1 86. The method of claim 81 wherein the first events
2 concern outbound calls made from a call center, and the
3 second events concern a selected service to which the
4 outbound calls are connected.

1 87. The method of claim 81 wherein the first events
2 concern conference calls made through a call center, and the
3 second events concern a selected service to which the
4 conference calls are connected.

1 88. A method for compiling statistics concerning at
2 least one communication, the communication including a
3 plurality of events occurring during the communication, the
4 method comprising:

5 receiving records representing the events, each record
6 including an identifier;
7 associating selected records with the communication
8 based on the identifiers in the selected records; and
9 generating the statistics concerning the communication
10 based on data in the selected records.

1 89. The method of claim 88 wherein the communication
2 includes an information assistance call.

1 90. The method of claim 88 wherein the identifiers
2 each identify the communication.

1 91. The method of claim 88 wherein the statistics is a
2 function of time when the communication takes place.

1 92. The method of claim 88 wherein the statistics is a
2 function of an interval during which the communication takes
3 place.

1 93. The method of claim 88 wherein the communication
2 is conducted through a call center, and the statistics is a
3 function of a location of the call center.

1 94. The method of claim 88 wherein the communication
2 is transported through a carrier, and the statistics is a
3 function of the carrier.

1 95. The method of claim 88 wherein the communication
2 originates from a market, and the statistics is a function
3 of the market.

1 96. The method of claim 88 wherein the selected
2 records are selected based on a type of event represented
3 thereby.

1 97. The method of claim 88 wherein the data includes
2 indications of selected events represented by the selected
3 records.